

## REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response extended one-month set to expire on August 25, 2005. Claims 47-77 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1, 6, 14, and 42 have been cancelled, and claims 47-80 have been added. Reconsideration of the claims pending is requested for reasons presented herein.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

The Examiner has objected to the information disclosures filed in the application. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the IDS filed on 4/14/04, 6/17/04, 7/26/04, and 7/30/04, as those IDS were previously considered in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/678,731, which application has been allowed by the Examiner and claims subject matter relevant to subject matter claimed in the present application.

With respect to the IDS filed on January 11, 2005 and April 13, 2005, Applicant is submitting herewith a reduced list of references for the Examiner's further consideration. However, the attached list of references is not to be construed as a representation that no other possibly material information exists in the two previously filed IDS. A copy of the foreign patents, foreign publications, or non-patent literature cited in the attached list of references is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

### **§ 102(b)**

Claims 1, 6, 14 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Knudson*, U.S. Patent No. 3,945,444.

Claims 1, 6, 14, and 42 have been cancelled. With respect to the new claims, *Knudson* does not teach, show, or suggest pumping pumping a one-way valve down the drill string, as recited in claim 47. *Knudson* also does not teach, show, or suggest

pumping a valve assembly down the drill string and locating the valve assembly in the casing portion, as recited in claim 68.

Claims 1, 6, and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by *Brown*, U.S. Patent No. 3,552,507.

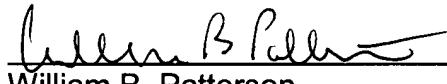
Claims 1, 6, and 42 have been cancelled. With respect to the new claims, *Brown* does not teach, show, or suggest pumping pumping a one-way valve down the drill string, as recited in claim 47. *Brown* also does not teach, show, or suggest pumping a valve assembly down the drill string and locating the valve assembly in the casing portion, as recited in claim 68.

***Conclusion***

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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